



## The St Nicholas Lodge Bugle

April 2025



The Daisy – one of the birth flowers of April

Welcome to the April edition of the St Nicholas Lodge Bugle, and for once this edition finds us in a period of sunny spring weather. Pictured above is the daisy which, like the entered apprentice apron symbolises innocence and purity and they have a rich history dating back to ancient Egypt.

Our April meeting saw the raising of Bro. Heath Samples (who joined in April 2024) who undertook his third degree. The answers to the questions leading to the third degree were answered perfectly and with assurance. Well done!

We were delighted to be visited by 16 visitors from 7 lodges. They were treated to an excellent ceremony by all the brethren involved in the ceremony, particularly our Worshipful Master, Scott Davison who led from the front.

The raising was given by W. Bro John White, who was excellent and who always brings meaning to the ritual in his delivery. The traditional history, tracing board and signs were kindly delivered by W. Bro Tony Dyer of the Leopold Lodge 1760. Big shout out for Bro Nev Chambers, who was not only great as Senior Deacon but also did the Working Tools of the Third Degree – and at fairly short notice too - blame the DC!

The festive board was lively as always and the excellent response from the visitors was given by W. Bro Nigel Hollington of the Astral Lodge 3841 in the Province of Lincolnshire.





From left back row: Bro, Nev Chambers (SD) and Bro Tony Luddon (JD), Front Row - Bro Alastair Yeomans (SW), Bro Heath Samples, W. Bro Scott Davison (WM), and W. Bro Tony Hewitt (Acting JW)



Bro Heath Samples being congratulated by the Worshipful Master, Scott Davison



In Memoriam



W. Bro Brian Connolly

1947 - 2025

The Worshipful Master rose on a sad note and with great sadness, to report to the passing to the Grand Lodge above of W. Bro Brain Connolly aged 78, who was Worshipful Master of the lodge 1995 – 1996. W. Bro John White gave a short talk on Brian before the Brethren rose to show their respects in the usual manner observed amongst Freemasons.

W. Bro Brian was a friend to many in lodge and chapter and he continued to support the lodge, even through his recent ill health. He was made an honorary member in 2024 when he became unable to attend lodge anymore.

W. Bro Brian will be remembered for his endless sense of humour, enjoyment of life, enjoyment of Freemasonry, dancing skills and excellent singing voice and he will be missed by many.



W. Bro Brian in full voice at the festive board

*Requiescat in Pace*



### **Lodge of Instruction**

The eagle eyed will have noted that the third Monday this month falls on Easter Monday, hence the next lodge of instruction will be held on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> March at 7:00pm in the upper temple. We will be going through a partial first-degree ceremony with the officers of 2026 ; all officers and brethren are welcome.

This is your opportunity to learn more about our ceremonies. Please let W. Bro Tony Hewitt know if you are unable to attend.

Brethren can meet in Scholars bar from 6:15 pm to enjoy some social time before we practice and learn.

- May

Second Degree for Bro. Daniel Watson

- June

Presentation by The Cornerstone Circle on the Provincial Festival 2029

- July

Second Degree for Bro. Graeme Needham

### **Charity**



### **Lodge Raffle**

The Festive Board raffle proceeds went to Westway Open Arms in Eastfield which raised a fantastic £140.00 with or Senior Deacon Bro Nev Chambers being the lucky winner of a bottle of Whisky.



A big thank you to Bro Andy Street and his wife Julie for raising £375 at three Thai evenings at Rocking Horse barn in Wilton.

This brings the total to date to £1,896 towards the TLC (Teddies for Loving Care).



The teddies as pictured above are provided to children in A & E departments to provide much needed comfort. The scheme is locally managed by Freemasons and since its inception in 2001, 3.5 million teddies have been distributed to hospitals in England and Wales.

The £500 that was donated to Westway Open Arms has gone on to be used to purchase a new flat screen television and sound bar and match funding has been sent to Provincial Grand Lodge.

Letters of thanks have been received from Malton Community Counselling and Andy's Man Club, for the £200 donations.

## Chapter



The next meeting Supreme Order of the Holy Royal Arch of Jerusalem (Or just Chapter), Denison Chapter 1248 was on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> April. The next regular meeting will be 8<sup>th</sup> October. The next committee meeting will be held on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> April at the Masonic Hall.



The Royal Arch together with Craft Freemasonry constitute 'Pure Antient Masonry'. By joining the Royal Arch after becoming a Master Mason, completes a Freemason's journey and this has been taking place for almost 300 years. Learn more about this important degree, which can only be joined after becoming a Master Mason. [Royal Arch Masonry](#)

Should you like to know more and are interested in joining chapter, an essential part of your masonic journey, please contact our Chapter representative, W. Bro John White.

### Social Events - Save the Date!

#### Scarborough Social Afternoon – Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> April



Join us for a lodge 'cultural' tour on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> April. The route is yet to be decided but will include the Leeds Arms and Scholars Bar. There will be a stop off for lunch too. The afternoon is a great informal way to get to know the brethren better and there is always a story to tell!



2024 social afternoon. It must have been summer!

## Daily Advancement

### Other Fraternal Societies

After Freemasonry emerged in the late 1600s and in to the 18<sup>th</sup> century, other fraternal orders and friendly societies began to appear. Some no doubt copied some of the ideas of Freemasonry as the basis for their structure, and emulated the ritual and regalia.

Often they were a support and friendship network for local communities and many friendly societies (a type of co-operative) served their local communities or profession financially, through subscription schemes to claim for things such as to for sickness and a decent burial and before the advent of the NHS, to pay for medical bills.

In the 19<sup>th</sup> century there over a thousand fraternal and friendly societies, most of which have now been consigned to the history books however, here are some notable examples of fraternal societies that have continued: -



Founded in 1822, it is one of the largest fraternal organisations (known as the 'Buffs') with many similarities to Freemasonry, including the regalia, the principles of tolerance, brotherly love and good fellowship and they have their own degrees and rituals. There is a lodge in Scarborough.



One of the most prominent ones in the UK is the Independent Order of Odd Fellows Manchester Unity Friendly Society. It too uses regalia and ritual based around Christian principles. Open to Men and women it's motto is 'Friendship, Love and Truth'. There used to be a branch in Castle Road.

**The Ancient Order of Druids** was founded in 1781, and is a fraternal society modelled on Freemasonry and whose main principles are justice, benevolence and friendship. The discussion of religion and politics is also forbidden. There are no lodges in England now since 1999 but it still remains in other countries around the world.



The Free Gardeners existed in Scotland in the early 1700s and they emulated the Freemasons in their structure. Originally a trader organisation, it evolved into mainly non-gardeners due to its moral dimension and activities. It declined severely in later years but was revived in Scotland in 2002, but now exist mainly in Australia, Germany and Canada. The emblem is a Square and Compasses with a pruning knife across the centre.



I hope you have enjoyed this edition of the Bugle and with Easter around the corner, we wish you all a very Happy Easter.

Yours fraternally

Jamie Wallis - Editor

